

LIST OF CURRENT CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) System comprising at least one banknote processing machine, which is connected to a service centre by means of a network, wherein the system is configured so that

data necessary for operation of the at least one banknote processing machine and/or data produced during operation of the at least one banknote processing machine are exchanged between the banknote processing machine and the service centre via the network, and wherein log files or statistics about increasing deviations or irregularities occurring during operation of the at least one bank note processing machine are transmitted to the service center over the network, and the service center evaluates the log files or statistics and causes repairs to be carried out or wearing parts to be replaced before the at least one bank note processing machine fails.

2. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the exchanged data comprise software.

3. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the exchanged data comprise comparison data and/or presets.

4. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that the data from the service centre fully or partially replaces and/or enhances the data in the banknote processing machine.

5. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that the network comprises the Internet.

6. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the banknote processing machine and the service centre have an interface for connection to the network.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein a number of banknote processing machines are connected to one another, wherein the exchange of data with the service centre takes place via one of the banknote processing machines and/or via the connection of the banknote processing machines.

8. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein one or more banknote processing machines are assigned to an operator that is able to monitor and/or control the banknote processing machines by means of a monitoring unit.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein data from banknote processing machines and/or operators are stored in a data memory of the service centre.

10. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1 or 8, wherein the service centre is arranged to evaluate the data of the operators.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the service centre is connected to departments.

12. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein the departments are arranged to provide data to the service centre.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein the departments are arranged to evaluate data from the service centre.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein each department is arranged to access data of the other departments.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein the departments are arranged to request data from the banknote processing machines.

16. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein the departments are arranged to provide data to the banknote processing machines.

17. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein one of said departments is arranged to provide software for operation of the banknote processing machines.

18. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein one of said departments is arranged to provide comparison data for the banknote processing machines.

19. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein one of said departments is arranged to provide data and/or software and/or information for repairing and/or servicing the banknote processing machines.

20. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 11, wherein one of said departments is arranged to provide information concerning the banknote processing machines.

21. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, including at least one further service centre connected to the network.

22. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein at least one service organization and/or service person is connected to the service centre via the network.

23. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the service centre is arranged to provide a trial version of the data for the banknote processing machines, which is usable by the banknote processing machines only for a limited time and/or for a predetermined number of uses.

24. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so as to enable operators and/or service organizations and/or banknote processing machines to search for information and/or data from the service centre in a targeted manner.

25. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, 8 or 11, wherein the service centre and/or the departments communicate via the network with the operators and/or the service organizations and/or service personnel, in particular by means of graphic signals and/or text signals and/or image signals and/or sound signals.

26. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 8, wherein the exchange of data between the service centre and the banknote processing machines, the service organization, and the operators, uses a standard protocol.

27. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the service centre is arranged to request data from the banknote processing machines.

28. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the service centre is enabled to adjust and control the banknote processing machines.

29. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the banknote processing machines are arranged to request data from the service centre.

30. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the service centre is enabled to charge fees for transmitting data to the banknote processing machines.

31. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the service centre is arranged to provide individual presets for each of the banknote processing machines.

32. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 31, wherein each of the banknote processing machines is arranged to check whether new individual presets are available from the service centre and, if so, to use these new presets.

33. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that adjustments to the respective banknote processing machine are undertaken by the banknote processing machine depending on the location.

34. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the banknote processing machines are arranged to end fault reports to the service centre and/or the service organization and/or the operator.

35. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that the service centre and/or a service organization and/or an operator request fault reports from the at least one banknote processing machine.

36. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 34, wherein any faults that have occurred are displayed by the banknote processing machines by means of an input/output device.

37. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 4, configured so that, when a fault has occurred and/or when a fault report has been received from the banknote processing machines, the service centre generates instructions to remove this fault and provides said instructions to the respective banknote processing machine.

38. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that, for certain operating processes and/or fault clearance operations, the presence of one or more persons is absolutely necessary.

39. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 38, arranged so that the presence of the person or persons is monitored.

40. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that the service centre informs a service organization and/or a service person if certain faults occur on one of the banknote processing machines.

41. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 40, arranged so that the service centre transmits to the service organization and/or to the service person information concerning the type of fault and/or concerning the measures to be carried out and/or concerning replacement parts that are required.

42. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, arranged so that the service centre checks whether a banknote processing machine, a service organization and an operator are authorized to exchange data with the service centre.

43. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, arranged so that the banknote processing machines, service organizations and operators check whether the service centre is authorized to exchange data with them.

44. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that data from the service centre are loaded by a banknote processing machine if the data from the service centre are of a newer version.

45. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that the exchange of data between the service centre and the banknote processing machines takes place at a specified point of time.

46. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that the exchange of data between the service centre and the banknote processing machines is refused by the banknote processing machines.

47. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 46, configured so that, if the exchange of data is refused by a banknote processing machine, the service centre takes control of the banknote processing machine in order to perform the exchange of data.

48. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the data of the banknote processing machine are backuped prior to an exchange of data into the banknote processing machine and/or the service centre.

49. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 48, configured so that the backuped data of the banknote processing machine can be used again or further if the exchange of data between the service centre and the banknote processing machine fails.

50. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that fundamental parts of the data of the banknote processing machines cannot be altered by an exchange of data.

51. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the banknote processing machines are arranged to check whether the data to be exchanged originate from an authorized source.

52. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the banknote processing machines are arranged to check prior to each use of data whether the data to be used originate from an authorized source.

53. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that data to be exchanged, that reflects a payment to be made, are identified, and exchange with the banknote processing machines is possible only if proof of such payment exists.

54. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that data to be exchanged, that reflects a payment to be made, are identified, and use by the banknote processing machines is possible only if proof of such payment exists.

55. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 53, configured so that the proof of payment is provided by an individual identifier of a banknote processing machine.

56. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 53, configured so that the proof of payment is provided by an identifier for a number of banknote processing machines.

57. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that an amount to be paid for data is set depending on the use of the data by the banknote processing machine.

58. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that data concerning the banknotes processed by the banknote processing machines are transmitted to the service centre.

59. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 58, configured so that comparison data are generated by the service centre from the data concerning the banknotes.

60. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 59, configured so that comparison data generated by the service centre are exchanged with the banknote processing machines.

61. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, wherein the service centre is arranged to generate an alarm message as a result of exchanging data with one or more of the banknote processing machines, which alarm message is sent to at least one of the banknote processing machines.

62. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 61, configured so that the alarm message places the banknote processing machines in a special mode of operation.

63. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 61, configured so that the alarm message contains further data, which are generated by the service centre and/or originate from the banknote processing machine(s) whose data triggered the generation of the alarm message.

64. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 61, wherein the alarm message is generated when counterfeit or suspect banknotes are found.

65. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 61, configured so as to enable a service person to set up by means of the banknote processing machines or a computer a connection via the network to the service centre and/or a service organization in order to request assistance and/or replacement parts.

66. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 65, wherein enabled operations carried out by the service person are communicated via the network to the service centre and/or the service organization.

67. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 66, configured so as to enable the service centre and/or the service organization to charge fees based on the operations communicated.

68. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that the service centre informs an operating person if certain faults occur on one of the banknote processing machines.

69. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 68, configured so that the service centre transmits information concerning the type of fault and/or concerning the measures to be carried out and/or concerning replacement parts that are required to the operating person.

70. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 68, configured so as to enable the service centre to ask the operating person to deliver the necessary replacement parts to the location of the respective banknote processing machine.

71. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 68, configured so that the service centre asks a department to provide data and/or software for clearing the fault on the banknote processing machines.

72. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 71, configured so that the departments provide the data and/or software for clearing the fault on the banknote processing machines by text and/or graphically and/or optically and/or acoustically.

73. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so that, when certain faults occur, the service centre clears the faults via the network.

74. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 1, configured so as to enable operating persons of the banknote processing machines to define specific configuration data.

75. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 74, wherein the specific configuration data are stored in the banknote processing machine, the service centre and/or a service organization and/or a computer of the operator.

76. (Previously Presented) The system according to Claim 75, wherein the stored specific configuration data are usable by an operating person of the banknote processing machines when this operating person operates the banknote processing machine.

77. (Previously Presented) Banknote processing machine, wherein the banknote processing machine comprises a system according to Claim 1.

78. (Previously Presented) The banknote processing machine according to Claim 77, wherein the banknote processing machine has an interface for connection to the network.

79. (Previously Presented) Service centre, comprising a system according to Claim 1.

80. (Previously Presented) The service centre according to Claim 79, wherein the service centre has an interface for connection to the network.

81. (Currently Amended) Method for operating at least one banknote processing machine as well as a service centre, comprising the steps:

providing a system comprising at least one banknote processing machine, which is connected to a service centre by means of a network;

exchanging data necessary for operation of the at least one banknote processing machine and/or data produced during operation of the at least one banknote processing machine between the at least one banknote processing machine and the service centre via the network, including transmitting log files or statistics about increasing deviations or irregularities occurring during operation of the at least one bank note processing machine;

wherein the service center evaluates the log files or statistics and causes repairs to be carried out or wearing parts to be replaced before the at least one bank note processing machine fails, in accordance with a system comprising the at least one banknote processing machine connected to a service centre according to Claim 1.